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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/760,233 | 01/21/2004 | Kia Silverbrook | MPA09US | 2195 |
| 24011 | 7590 | 11/24/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD 393 DARLING STREET BALMAIN, NSW 2041 AUSTRALIA | | | MARTIN, LAURA E | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2853 | |

DATE MAILED: 11/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/760,233

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

Examiner

Laura E. Martin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silverbrook (US 6439908) in view of Silverbrook et al (US 20020180834).

Silverbrook discloses the following claim limitations:

As per claim 1: at least two printhead modules (figure 15, element 10) each comprising at least two printhead integrated circuits (figure 2, element 18), each of which has nozzles formed therein (column 3, lines 44-50) for delivering printing fluid into the surface of print media, and a support member (figure 3, element 32) commonly supporting and carrying the printing fluid for the printhead integrated circuits of the respective printhead module; and a casing (figure 2, element 14) in which the at least two printhead modules are removably mounted; wherein the assembly has an aggregate length and a number of printhead modules predetermined to provide for selected pagewidth printing (figure 8, element 72).

As per claim 2: each of the printhead modules has sixteen printhead integrated circuits (column 3, lines 49-50).

As per claim 3: the at least two printhead modules (figure 15, element 10) are each formed as a unitary arrangement of the at least two printhead integrated

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circuits (figure 2, element 18), the support member (figure 3, element 32), the electrical connector (column 3, line 59-65), and the at least one fluid distribution member (figure 7, element 30) mounting the at least two printhead integrated circuits to the support member; and the support member has at least one longitudinally extending channel (figure 8, element 72) for carrying the printhead fluid for the printhead integrated circuits and includes a plurality of apertures (figure 8, element 72) extending through a wall of the support member arranged so as to direct the printing fluid from the at least one channel to associated nozzles in both, or if more than two, all of the printhead integrated circuits by way of respective ones of the fluid distribution members (column 4, lines 41-44).

As per claim 4: each printhead module of the at least two printhead modules has end portions which permit interconnection of the linearly aligned printhead modules and provide for fluid connection (figure 2, element 16) of the channels thereof (figure 2).

As per claim 5: the end portions of each of the printhead modules comprise complementary female (figure 10, element 38) and male (figure 10, element 42) end portions.

As per claim 6: a sealing adhesive provided at the interface of the interconnected printhead modules (figure 1, element 84).

Silverbrook does not disclose the following claim limitations:

As per claim 1: a casing in which the at least two printhead modules are arranged so as to be removably mounted in linearly aligned relationship, the support

members of the modules being configured to communicate the printing fluid with one another.

Silverbrook et al. discloses the following claim limitations:

As per claim 1: the support members of the modules being configured to communicate the printing fluid with one another (figures 8 and 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Silverbrook et al. with the disclosure of Silverbrook in order to create a higher quality printing apparatus.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silverbrook (US 6439908) and Silverbrook et al (US 20020180834), and further in view of Lu et al. (US 20030007042).

Silverbrook et al. discloses a sealing adhesive; however, it does not disclose the sealing adhesive being epoxy.

Lu et al. discloses the sealing adhesive being epoxy [0002].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the printhead assembly taught by Silverbrook et al. as modified with the disclosure of Lu et al. in order to create a more durable apparatus with continuous ink flow.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura E. Martin whose telephone number is (571) 272-2160. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:00 - 3:30.

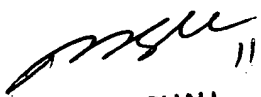
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen D. Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Laura E. Martin

 11/21/06
MANISH S. SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER